

Description

ADJUSTABLE TURKEY PAN CALL HOLDER

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

[0001] For years, the typical turkey pan call has been a circular friction call with a circular playing surface disposed above a generally cylindrical sound chamber with at least one hole in the bottom from where sound propagates.

[0002] A hunter often rests the call on the hunter's leg. This tends to attenuate the sound produced by the call. To avoid this, the hunter would often tip the call on its side to expose the bottom of the call. This makes it difficult to play, because the top-playing surface is then vertical, or at least no longer horizontal.

[0003] One method of avoiding the need to tip the call is described in U.S. Patent 5,607,091 to John Musacchia, which is an example of a call holder which accepts a turkey pan call into an aperture in a platform having legs. The legs elevate the bottom of the turkey pan call so that sound is not occluded by the operator's leg. The turkey pan call is held in place by resilient members or rubber bands which

extend over the playing surface of the pan call.

[0004] While such turkey pan call holders have been used in the past, they do have some drawbacks. One of the most significant drawbacks to such a pan call holder is the obstruction caused by the resilient member extending over the pan call itself. The obstruction can make it difficult to freely move a striker about the entire playing surface of the call and thereby can restrict the operator from certain areas of the pan call surface unless the operator manually moves or otherwise pushes the resilient member to the side. However, when an operator is calling a turkey, it is often desirable to limit the motion occurring at the source of the sound call.

[0005] Consequently, there exists a need for improved methods and systems for holding a turkey friction pan call in an efficient manner.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

[0006] It is an object of the present invention to provide a system and method for holding a turkey friction pan call in an efficient manner.

[0007] It is a feature of the present invention to utilize a plurality of side rim grasping pan call holding members.

[0008] It is another feature of the present invention to include a

mechanical adjustment which accommodates variably sized pan calls.

[0009] It is an advantage of the present invention to achieve improved efficiency in holding various sized pan calls.

[0010] The present invention is an apparatus and method for holding turkey friction pan calls, designed to satisfy the aforementioned needs, provide the previously stated objects, include the above-listed features, and achieve the already articulated advantages. The present invention is carried out in a "wasted motion-less" manner in a sense that motion often associated with displacing any resilient member disposed over the pan call playing surface has been greatly reduced.

[0011] Accordingly, the present invention is a system and method including a turkey friction call holder with a plurality of rim grasping members which grip a side rim portion of the turkey pan call.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0012] The invention may be more fully understood by reading the following description of the preferred embodiments of the invention, in conjunction with the appended drawings wherein:

[0013] Figure 1 is a downward looking perspective view of a

turkey friction pan call and pan call holder of the present invention.

[0014] Figure 2 is an upward looking perspective view of a turkey friction pan call holder of the present invention.

[0015] Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of a turkey pan call holder taken on line 3-3 of Figure 2.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0016] Now referring to the drawings wherein like numerals refer to like matter throughout, and more specifically referring to Figure 1, there is shown a call holder of the present invention generally designated 100, including a turkey pan call 102 (which is shown without the slate or playing surface) disposed in the turkey pan call holder 110. Turkey pan call 102 is shown having a turkey pan call edge rim 104, a turkey pan call bottom sound port 106, and a plurality of turkey pan call side sound ports 108. Numerous variations exist in the prior art for turkey pan calls. The present invention is intended to be able to retain numerous varying types and sizes of pan calls.

[0017] Turkey pan call holder 110 includes a first leg 112 and a second leg 114 which each has a bottom end 116 and a top end 118. Coupled to top end 118 is support 140 which is designed to provide support for the rim gripping

member 120. Rim gripping member 120 is shown as an "L"-shaped member with a top portion which extends generally vertically and a lower portion which extends generally horizontally. Rim gripping member 120 is disposed between supports 140 and pivots at pivot point 122. The pivoting of rim gripping member 120 could be accomplished by many different ways, such as the pin or sleeve disposed through holes in rim gripping member 120 and support 140 as shown. It can be seen that a portion of rim gripping member 120 extends above and slightly over the edge of the turkey pan call edge rim 104. This arrangement may be preferable; however, it is not essential. Rim gripping member 120 could be adapted to merely place pressure on the sides of the turkey pan call 102.

[0018] Now referring to Figure 2, there is shown a view of the turkey pan call holder 110 of Figure 1 (without the turkey pan call 102 disposed therein) which is viewed from below to expose more of an underside of turkey pan call holder 110. More specifically, 130 is more fully shown. Additionally, rim mating void 202 in rim gripping member 120 is shown more easily when turkey pan call 102 is not present.

[0019] Now referring to Figure 3, there is shown a cross-sectional view of the turkey pan call holder 110 taken on line 3-3 of Figure 2. Actuator 302 is shown centrally disposed between the rim gripping members 120 and extending down to adjusting screw handle 130. Actuator 302 includes an actuator top surface 304, a gripping member lower end receiving void 306, and a gripping member lower end retaining protuberance 308. Actuator 302 further includes actuator threads 310 which mate with screw knob threads 312 of adjusting screw handle 130.

[0020] In operation, when adjusting screw handle 130 is twisted, first leg 112 and second leg 114 prohibit adjusting screw handle 130 from moving upward so actuator 302 is drawn downward, causing the lower ends of rim gripping members 120 to be drawn downward as well. This causes the top portions of rim gripping members 120 to move inward, thereby making the space between them smaller and more capable of firmly retaining a turkey pan call 102. Of course, the process could be reversed, and the rim mating voids 202 of the rim gripping members 120 would separate so as to allow for reception of a larger turkey pan call.

[0021] Throughout this description, reference is made to a turkey

pan call because it is believed that the beneficial aspects of the present invention would be most readily apparent when used with a turkey call; however, it should be understood that the present invention is not intended to be limited to use with turkey calls and should be hereby construed to include use with other non-turkey calls as well.

[0022] The components of the turkey pan call holder 110 of the present invention are preferably made of an inexpensive and strong rigid material, such as PVC or other plastic material. Of course, any suitable material could be used as well.

[0023] It is thought that the method and apparatus of the present invention will be understood from the foregoing description and that it will be apparent that various changes may be made in the form, construct steps, and arrangement of the parts and steps thereof, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention or sacrificing all of their material advantages. The form herein described is merely a preferred exemplary embodiment thereof.